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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9047

INFO RUDKAR/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST 2360

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BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 8258

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: SALT NEGOTIATIONS

1. ROMANIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR TOLD DCM AT A SOCIAL OCCASION THAT SOVIETS WILL OFFER TO CONFIGURE BACKFIRE BOMBER SOT THAT MID-AIR REFUELING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE AND WILL FURTHER OFFER NOT TO STATION THESE AIRCRAFT NORTH OF THE ARCTIC CIRCLE OR IN ANY OTHER POSITION FROM WHICH A ROUND-TRIP MISSION TO THE CONTINENTAL U.S. WOULD BE FEASIBLE. ROMANIAN ASKED WHETHER THIS SOVIET OFFER WOULD SATISFY THE U.S. HE SAID, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SOVIET POSITION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OR DEPLOYMENT OF CRUISE MISSILES.

2. DCM ASKED WHETHER ROMANIAN WAS GIVING HIM THIS INFORMATION AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOVIETS AND WAS TOLD THIS WAS NOT THE CASE. ROMANIAN SAID HE MERELY WISHED, AS A MATTER OF PERSONAL CURIOSITY, TO KNOW WHETHER U.S. WOULD FIND THIS SOVIET OFFER INTERESTING. DCM SAID HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH DETAILS OF U.S. POSITION, BUT WOULD BE HAPPY TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE TO THOSE WHO WERE. DAVIES

State Department review completed